

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

### Listing of Claims

Claims 1-35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) A method of managing ideas for prospectively patentable inventions, comprising the steps of:

(a) ~~maintaining a computer database for accumulating ideas~~ causing a computer system to execute instructions that cause accumulation of idea contributions for prospectively patentable inventions in a computer database; and

(b) ~~programming a computer to provide~~ causing the computer system to execute instructions that cause the assignment of contingent contractual rights to contributors of said idea contributions, or parties specified by said contributors, in exchange for ~~transfers~~ transfer of property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions derived at least in part from the accumulated ideas, or in exchange for contractual obligations to transfer said property rights, wherein said contingent contractual rights are to a portion of ~~anticipated~~ income derived from said property rights; and

(c) marketing at least some contractual rights under said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights.

37. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36, wherein step (c) comprises the step of:

(d) ~~programming a computer to facilitate marketing~~ causing the computer system to execute instructions that cause at least some of said contingent contractual rights to be marketed in an on-line marketable format.

38. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the format is an electronically tradable certificate.

39. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, ~~wherein step (d)~~ comprises further comprising the step of:

(e) enabling causing the computer system to execute instructions that cause on-line transfer, sale, and/or auction of the contingent contractual rights being marketed.

Claim 40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, wherein a computer system facilitates use of contributor computers to make on-line contributions of said ideas to the computer database; and wherein step (b) comprises the step of:

~~(d)~~ (e) providing causing the computer system to execute instructions that cause said contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights to be assigned by on-line communications between the computer system and the contributor computers.

42. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, ~~wherein said ideas are systematically accumulated~~ further comprising the step of:

(e) prior to filing any patent applications for any particular inventions ~~respectively~~ derived at least in part from said accumulated ideas, systematically publishing said accumulated ideas that said particular inventions are derived from.

43. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, wherein said ideas include needs and/or requirements of said inventions.

Claims 44-51 (canceled)

52. (new) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, wherein said marketing is of said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights.

53. (new) A method according to Claim 36 or 37, wherein said marketing is on behalf of at least some assignees of said contingent contractual rights.

54. (new) A method of marketing contractual rights to a portion of income from property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions,

wherein a computer system has caused idea contributions for said prospectively patentable inventions to have been accumulated in a computer database;

wherein a computer system has caused assignment of contingent contractual rights to have been made to contributors of said idea contributions, or parties specified by said contributors, in exchange for transfer of said property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions derived at least in part from the accumulated ideas, or in exchange for contractual obligations to transfer said property rights, wherein said contingent contractual rights are to a portion of income from said property rights; and

wherein said method comprises the step of:

(a) causing a computer system to execute instructions that cause marketing of at least some said contractual rights under said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights in an on-line marketable format.

55. (new) A method according to Claim 54, wherein said marketing is of said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights.

56. (new) A method according to Claim 54, wherein said marketing is on behalf of at least some assignees of said contingent contractual rights.

57. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media), comprising computer executable instructions for a computer system used in a method of managing ideas for prospectively patentable inventions, wherein said instructions comprise:

(a) instructions that cause the computer system to cause accumulation of contributions of ideas for prospectively patentable inventions in a computer database;

(b) instructions that cause the computer system to cause the assignment of contingent contractual rights to contributors of said idea contributions, or parties specified by said contributors, in exchange for transfer of property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions derived at least in part from the accumulated ideas, or in exchange for contractual obligations to transfer said property rights, wherein said contingent contractual rights are to a portion of income from said property rights; and

(c) instructions that cause the computer system to cause at least some contingent contractual rights under said assigned contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights to be marketed.

58. (new) A readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 57, wherein said marketing is of said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights.

59. (new) A readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 57, wherein said marketing is on behalf of at least some assignees of said contingent contractual rights.

60. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 57, wherein the instructions (c) cause the computer system to cause at least some of said contractual rights to be marketed in an on-line marketable format.

61. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 60, wherein the format is an electronically tradable certificate.

62. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 57, wherein said instructions further comprise instructions that cause on-line transfer, sale, and/or auction of the contractual rights being marketed.

63. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media), comprising computer executable instructions for a computer system used in a method of marketing contractual rights to a portion of income from property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions, wherein a computer system has caused idea contributions for said prospectively patentable inventions to have been accumulated in a computer database; wherein a computer system has caused assignment of contingent contractual rights to have been made to contributors of said idea contributions, or parties specified by said contributors, in exchange for transfer of said property rights under patent rights to prospectively patentable inventions derived at least in part from the accumulated ideas, or in exchange for contractual obligations to transfer said property rights, wherein said contingent contractual rights are to a portion of income from said property rights; and

wherein said instructions cause the computer system to cause at least some contingent contractual rights under said assigned contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights to be marketed in an on-line marketable format.

64. (new) A readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 63, wherein said marketing is of said assigned contingent contractual rights to a portion of income from said property rights.

65. (new) A readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 63, wherein said marketing is on behalf of at least some assignees of said contingent contractual rights.

66. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 63, wherein the format is an electronically tradable certificate.

67. (new) A computer readable storage medium(media) according to Claim 63, wherein said instructions further comprise instructions that cause on-line transfer, sale, and/or auction of the contractual rights being marketed.